

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ADAPTIVE COMPONENT CONFIGURATION

The invention provides a method and system for announcing a session description of a media session such as a multimedia conference that is to take place over a multicast capable network, for example the communications network known as the MBone (Internet Protocol Multicast Backbone). The invention also provides a method and system for configuring a platform for receiving such a media session. The method of announcing a session description comprises the steps of: generating a session description (1115) comprising including media oriented data necessary for a user to receive at least one media stream of a media session, wherein the media oriented data identifies one or more application program components (1145) or requirements for one or more application programs or configurations of application program components (1145) necessary to participate in the media session; and, the step of announcing. Announcing the media session is accomplished by making the session description available to potential recipients (1135) of the media session.

In another aspect the method of configuring a platform for the media session comprises the steps of: receiving a session description (1115) of the aforementioned type and processing the session description to determine an appropriate application program configuration (1150) from the list (1140) of available application programs or program components (1145); and, the step of configuring a respective media session application program (1156) from the list (1140) for participation in said media session.